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cording to the usual account, however, the vision is seen by a nun who was on the point of returning to the worldly life. In Mussafia's lists of *Marienlegenden* (*Sitzungsb. Wien. Akad.* 113 and 115) this story is registered in the following ms. collections: Paris Bibl. Nat. 14463 (XII cent.) and 12593 (XIII cent.), Copenhagen Thott 26 (XII-XIII cent.), Leipzig 821 (XIII cent.) and 819 (XIII cent.), Cambray 739, Paris Bibl. Nat. 17491 (XIII cent.) and 18134 (XIII cent.), and Charleville 168 (XIII cent.). It occurs also in B. M. Addit. ms. 33956 (XIV cent.), fol. 72 (Ward, *Cat. of Rom.*, II. 673).

I should hardly venture to point to this Marian legend as a source for Chaucer, though it may appropriately find a place beside the other serpent pits cited by Professor Tatlock, and for that matter it is a story which Chaucer is much more likely to have known than many of those to which attention has been called.

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BRIEF MENTION

With their *Selections from Montaigne*, edited by C. H. C. Wright, of Harvard, and their *Pages choisies de Calvin*, edited by Daniel Jordan, of Columbia, Messrs. D. C. Heath and Co. have filled a serious gap in the series of American text-books for the study of French classic literature. These two volumes on the sixteenth century are carefully prepared and well edited, the selections are wisely made, and while sufficient to give the reader a fair idea of the author's style, are not so voluminous as to deter him from their perusal. The *Calvin* is supplied with a good glossary, the *Montaigne* with full notes; the retention of *i* for *j* in the latter text is to be regretted. The editors and publishers are to be thanked for having put these texts within reach of the American student.

M. P. B.

Notwithstanding the numerous texts dealing with one aspect or another of German *Realien*, there has hitherto been a notable lack of a book suited for more serious study in upper college

classes. This need has now been very well met by the publication of *Ein Charakterbild von Deutschland*, compiled and edited by M. B. Evans and Elisabeth Merhaut (Boston, D. C. Heath & Co., 1914). A large number of sketches, gathered and pieced together from a still larger number of authors, treat such topics as The German Language, German Cities, Recent Political History, Form of Government, Trade and Industry, Achievements in Science, Philosophy, Literature, and Art, German Education, Sport. In the main, these subjects are, within the limits imposed, treated in a highly satisfactory manner. The piecing process has, to be sure, left seams here and there. Thus there is no adequate motivation for the "abnormals" of p. 108, l. 21, and under the heading "Philosophie" the remark cited from Bartels on p. 152, ll. 18-21, is clearly out of place. In his annotation the editor has exercised great reserve, properly so, in view of the multitude of things that invited comment. In some cases this reserve is perhaps carried too far. No one not already familiar with the facts could, for example, understand the allusions in the first paragraph of "Der deutsch-französische Krieg" (p. 94), nor will any one but a reader of Nietzsche make much out of "Herren- und Sklavenmoral" or of "revaluation of all values," which is the editor's comment on "Umwertung aller Werte" (p. 152). In many respects the book is refreshingly modern, so in its treatment of the Berlin stage. The opening of the municipal University of Frankfurt (p. 234) has, however, been anticipated by half a year, while, on the other hand, the "Königliche Bibliothek" of p. 17, l. 1, has for some time past been replaced by the new monumental structure on Unter den Linden. The map that accompanies the volume is inadequate, as the editor himself seems to have recognized.

In his *Orígenes del Romancero*¹ R. Menéndez Pidal reviews Foulché-Delbosc's criticism of his theories in regard to the Spanish ballad (cf. *M. L. N.*, XXIX, p. 32). While the review is not free from the personal element inaugurated in the original discussion, the important issues are set forth in a clear-cut manner that is in harmony with the author's previous works on the Spanish epic. In addition to correcting various errors in Foulché-Delbosc's pamphlet, Menéndez Pidal reaffirms and elucidates his own views on the fundamental ques-

¹ Ed. H. Isenard, Orleans, 1888, p. 48.

¹ *Revista de Libros* (Madrid: Vicente Rico), Enero, 1914, pp. 3-14.

tions involved. Especially interesting and valuable is the new material in support of the view that "les romances de la frontière sont de petits poèmes, nés au milieu même de la guerre qu'ils célèbrent." For the *Cercada tiene á Baeza* he adduces the revised and published opinion of Menéndez Pelayo, supported by documents of the year 1369. From this evidence we see that the *Pero Gil* of the ballad was the nickname applied by Enrique II to Pedro I of Castille, and that the siege of Baeza took place in the year 1368. More striking still is the evidence in support of the historical background for the *Abenamar*-ballad (*Por Guadalquivir arriba*) in which the Christian king, Juan II, pointing to the towers of Granada, asks the Moor Abenamar: "Qué castillos son aquellos?" The historian Hernando de Baeza, who flourished at least a century before Perez de Hita, speaking of those present at the court of Juan II mentions the Moor Abenamar as "aquel á quien dice el romance que preguntó el rey don Juan: *Qué castillos son aquellos?*" Other historical accounts of the reign of Juan II are cited to show that the Abenamar of the ballad is the historical Aben Almar or Aben Alahmar; and archeological and other evidence is furnished to show that there is no anachronism in the ballad reference to the palace of Los Alixares. While Menéndez Pidal does not claim that every *romance fronterizo* is contemporary with the event it relates, he believes that this may be true of the *Ay Dios qué buen caballero*, and that the hero of the ballad in question is not D. Rodrigo Girón. A most welcome item is the announcement that the edition of the *Cancionero de Amberes* is in press; this edition will include a study of various ballad problems suggested by the text.

El Sacrificio de la Misa por Gonzalo de Berceo, edición de Antonio de Solalinde (Madrid, Residencia de Estudiantes, 1913, 8vo., 66 pp.), presents a paleographic text of this work of Berceo's, together with the essential information in regard to mss. and previous editions of the poem. The *Sacrificio* is preserved to us in a single incomplete ms. (XIV cent.) of the Biblioteca Nacional de Madrid. Solalinde publishes this ms., which includes only stanzas 1-250; he reproduces from Sanchez's edition of the lost Ibarreta ms. the remaining 47 stanzas and the variants of stanzas 1-250. The editor has retained the marking of the caesura as found in the Bibl. Nac. ms., and publishes a facsimile of one page of the text. The work gives every evidence of care and accuracy, and

the text forms a reliable basis for a future critical edition. The Sánchez and Janer versions were in sore need of revision, as shown by the many important corrected readings found in this new edition; for example, *antigos*, 34d; *cotidiano*, 95b; *persona*, 158c; *cor*, 164c; *fizi-oron*, 220c; *cuchiello*, 203c; *fiesta*, 245d (in rhyme); the accurate reproduction of *ç* and *z*, and of final *d* and *t*; the frequent omission of final *n* in *non* and *nin*. The markings of the caesura furnish additional evidence for the forced caesura, cf. 125c, 122c, etc. Solalinde's text represents Series I, Vol. I, of the "Publicaciones de la Residencia de Estudiantes."

The *Boletín de la Real Academia Española*, Tomo I, Cuaderno I (Febrero de 1914) begins life under auspices that will doubtless insure its continuation. This new journal will publish articles and documents in the field of Spanish language and literature. The names of the contributors to the initial number attest, in themselves, to the high standard of the publication: Cotarelo y Mori; R. Menéndez Pidal; D. de Cortázar; Francisco Rodríguez Marín. There will be five numbers a year; subscription 12 pesetas.

Obras completas de Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra; publicanlas Rudolfo Schevill y Adolfo Bonilla (Madrid: Bernardo Rodríguez, 1914). The prospectus of this edition announces that the work will consist of approximately eighteen volumes at 5 pesetas a volume, that the *Galatea* is ready for issue, and that the *Persiles y Segismundo* will follow shortly. The character of this important literary undertaking can best be given in the editors' statement: "In every case the first edition will form the basis of the text, while such variants as occur in other editions, especially those printed in the life-time of Cervantes, will be noted wherever they deserve consideration. Peculiarities of spelling of the author's time will be strictly adhered to; only the punctuation will be modernized, and accents will be very sparingly used in the case of a few words of identical form and of more than one syllable. Such explanatory notes as seem indispensable will be found at the end of each volume." An edition of this character, prepared by such well-known scholars as Professors Schevill and Bonilla, may count on a hearty welcome from students of Spanish literature.